

# ARTICLES

OF

## IMPEACHMENT

BY THE

COMMONS

ASSEMBLED IN

PARLIAMENT,

IN THE

NAME OF THEMSELVES AND  
ALL the COMMONS in  
ENGLAND:

AGAINST,

SIR THOMAS GARDINER;

Recorder of the City of *London*, for severall  
great Crimes, and Misdemeanours com-  
mitted by him.



LONDON, Printed for THO: WALKLEY,  
May 23. 1642.

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ARLINGTON

MEMORANDUM

TO THE SECRETARY

FROM THE DIRECTOR

SUBJECT: [Illegible]



# ARTICLES

OF

Impeachment against Sir *Thomas Gardiner* Recorder of the City of London.

*Imprimis.*



That the said Sir *Thomas Gardiner* being now and for 6 years last past, having bin Recorder of the City of *London*, and having taken an Oath for his faithfull Discharge of his said Office, and to maintain the Franchises and Customs of the said City, and not to discover the Councell therof to the hurt of the same, did in the year of our Lord God, 1638. contrary to the Lawes of this Kingdome, and contrary to his Oath wickedly advise, direct, and earnestly presse Sir *Maurice Abbot*, Knight, then Lord Major of *London*, the Aldermen and Common Councell of the said City, and others at severall times since, to impose, levie, and take of the said Citizens and Inhabitants, without their consent in Parliament the illegall Tax of ship-money, and being told by some of the said Common-Councell, That the said TAXE of ship-money was against Law, he the said Sir *Thomas Gar-*



*diner* replied, there would be Law found for it ere long.

II.

That the said Sir *Thomas Gardiner* in the said year 1638. did wickedly advise and perswade the said then Lord Maior, Aldermen, and Common-counsell of London, that they might at their owne will and pleasure by force and power of the Acts of that Court, taxe, and levie on the said Citizens and Inhabitants, without their consent in Parliament, a certaine summe of money by way of Loane, to furnish his Majesty for his warres, affirming that such Acts would binde and compell the Citizens to pay the same; And also in the said yeare 1638. contrary to his oath, and against the said Lawes of the Land did wickedly advise and direct the then Lord Maior Aldermen and Common Councell, to raise and levie an Armie of 3000. men of the Trained Bands of the said Citie, to serve his Majesty in his Warres in the North against his Majesties Subjects of *Scotland*, and therein hee affirmed, That every Subject was bound by his Allegiance to serve the King, and that neither the Statute-Law, nor their Charters could excuse them, saying also the same time, It is now no time to plead Statutes and Charters.

III.

That about the month of *February* 1639. hee the said Sir *Thomas Gardiner*, contrary to his Oath and to the Lawes of the Land, did earnestly perswade and presse Sir *Henry Garraway*, Knight, then Lord Maior, the Aldermen and Common Counsell of London, to impresse cloth, and conduct 200. men of the said Citizens and Inhabitants, to serve the King in

In his warres in the North against his Majesties Subjects of *Scotland*, and also the same was to be done by the said Court of Common Councell as a thing against Law, yet by the perswasion of the said Sir *Thomas Gardiner* the same was then performed by the then Lord Maior, and the money paid for the same out of the Chamber of *London* without any consent or approbation of the said Court of Common Councell, contrary to the Liberties and Customes of the said City, and in subversion of them,

IV.

That a Petition directed to his Majesty, being prepared in the said yeare 1638. by the said then Lord Maior, Aldermen, and Common Councell, setting forth the Lawes and Statutes of this Kingdom, and the Charters of the said City, to exempt the said Citizens and Inhabitants of *London* from certaine illegall taxes and services, whereby his Majesty might be pleased not to continue such his Demand of men and money from them, and the said Sir *Thomas Gardiner*, contrary to his Oath and duty of his place, did reveale and disclose to his Majesty their counsell and their intention of delivery of that Petition, and then told the persons appointed to deliver the same Petition, that his Majesty would receive no Petition from them.

V.

That the said Sir *Thomas Gardiner*, to the end to preserve himselfe from being questioned for the same crimes, laboured to hinder the calling of Parliaments: And therefore in the month of *May*, in the yeare 1640. presently after the dissolving of the Parliament, hee the said Sir *Thomas Gardiner* advised and perswaded the then Lord Maior, Aldermen and Common Councell of *London*

to lend the King 100000. l. for his wars against His Majesties subjects of *Scotland*, and albeit they told him, it was not safe for them to do it, when the Parliament and Kingdom had refused it; yet he earnestly perswaded them therunto, and in or about July in the said year 1640, when many 1000. of the said Citizens of *London* joyned in a Petition to be delivered unto his Majesty to call a Parliament for settling the distractions of this Kingdome, and for the peace and welfare therof, and of his Majesties Kingdom of *Scotland*, he the said Sir *Thomas Gardiner* did earnestly dissuade them from it; saying, it was dangerous and needlesse, and the Petition would come unseasonable to interrupt the Kings Affairs.

## VI.

That in December last, when a petition was prepared and subscribed by many thousands of the said Citizens to be presented to the House of Commons, to assure them of their good affection to the King and Parliament, and not to divert the Parliament in their just ways: he the said Sir *Thomas Gardiner* caused some of the Petitioners to be sent for, before the Lord Major and himself, and questioned them as Rioters and Disturbers of the peace, saying that the putting of their hands to a Petition, was the way to put altogether by the ears, and being then answered by some of the said Petitioners, that they sought nothing but peace; he replied in these or the like words. Is this your way to peace; no, it tends to sedition and bloud, and to cutting of throats, and if it come to that you may thank your selves? your blouds be upon your own heads; and he used other threatening speeches to discourage and terrifie the Petitioners from further proceeding in their said Petition which Petition was afterwards presented to the Lords



Lords and Commons in Parliament, and well approved by them, and doth not contain any dangerous matter, as was maliciously by him pretended; as may appear by the Copy of a petition hereunto annexed.

## VII.

That in January last, at a Court of Common-Councill in *London*, an Order of the House of Commons was sent and delivered to the Lord Major, Aldermen and Common-councill of the said City, appointing them to make choice of meet persons to have the Ordering of the Militia: Whereat the said Sir *Thomas Gardiner* was present, and took notice of the said Order, and declared his opinion, That the persons of the Committee formerly chosen for the safety of the said City, were the fittest man to take that service upon them. Whereupon the Lord Major and Sheriffe desiring to be excused, the persons of the said Committee were chosen by a cleer Vote, and their Names sent to the House of Commons, and by them and the House of Peers allowed and approved of. Yet afterwards, he the said Sir *Thomas Gardiner* endeavouring & plotting to hinder the Proceedings in Parliament, the peace and safety of this Kingdom, did most maliciously and wickedly advise, and direct, the making and framing of two false and seditious petitions. And he the said Sir *Thomas Gardiner* upon perusal of them, affirmed, the matters contained in them, to be agreeable to law, and to the Custom of the said City; thereby encouraging divers of the said City to subscribe the same, & to send the one of them to be presented to his Majesty, and the other unto the Lords and Commons in Parliament, which petitions do contain in them, divers false, scandalous, and seditious matters. And in particular, that petition annexed hereunto, a Copy wherof was afterwards subscribed by divers Citizens, and presented

sent to the House of Commons containeth false matter, That the Ordering of the Arms of the said City of London, had bin time out of mind annexed to the Majorallty for the time being, and insinuating that if the same should be conferred upon others, it would reflect upon the Government and Custom of the said City, which every Freeman of the said city, was by his Oath of Freedome bound to maintain to the uttermost of his power; Which Petitions were so contrived framed and published on purpose to divert his Majesty from assenting to the said Ordinance, and to work a distraction in the said City, and to bring the Parliament, City, and whole Kingdome into disorder and confusion. All which matters committed and done by the said Sir Thomas Gardiner, were, and are high crimes and misdemeanours contrary to the Laws of this Realm, and in subversion of them, and contrary to the Rights and Priviledges of Parliament, the liberty and propriety of the subject, tending to sedition, and to the disturbance of the publique peace of this Realm.

And the said Commons by protestation to themselves the liberty of exhibiting at any time hereafter any other Accusation or Impeachment against the said Sir Thomas Gardiner, and also of replying to the answers that the said Sir Thomas Gardiner shall make unto the said Articles, or to any of them, and of offering further proof of the premisses, or any of them, or of any other Impeachment, or Accusation that shall be exhibited by them, as the cause shall according to the course of Parliament require, Doe pray, that the said Sir Thomas Gardiner may be put to answer all and every the premisses, And that such proceedings, Exactions, Tryals, and Iudgments may be upon every of them, had and used, as is agreeable to Law and Iustice.

F I N I S.

Noted a  
strong  
word



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